

Public Health, BA

Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in public health requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including at least 45 s.h. of work for the major. Students must have a cumulative grade-point average (GPA) of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major; in all college coursework and in all UI coursework; and in all college coursework in public health and in all UI public health coursework, including any courses administered by the College of Public Health in the departments of Biostatistics, Community and Behavioral Health, Epidemiology, Health Management and Policy, and Occupational and Environmental Health. Students are required to earn a minimum of 30 s.h. in public health coursework at the University of Iowa.

The BA with a major in public health requires the following coursework.

College Success Requirement

All students are required to complete CSI:1600 Success at Iowa during the fall semester; students complete part one before participating in an orientation program. The course is designed to help students successfully transition to college life. The course covers information about online tools that are specific to the university, such as MyUI and Iowa Courses Online (ICON), and also discusses resources for navigating life on campus. Additional content includes financial aid literacy, strategies for making healthy behavior choices, sexual assault awareness and prevention, and the comprehensive transitional survey known as MAP-Works.

General Education Requirements

Course #	Title	Hours
RHET:1030	Rhetoric: Writing and Communication	4
ENGL:1200	Interpreting Literature	3
World Languages		0-10
Natural Sciences		7
Quantitative or Formal Reasoning		3
Social Sciences		3
Historical Perspectives		3
Understanding Cultural Perspectives		3
International and Global Issues		3
Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts		3
Values and Society		3
Sustainability ¹		0

¹ Sustainability courses will count for two core requirements (i.e., for sustainability and one other approved general education core course in natural, quantitative, and social sciences, or culture, society, and the arts).

World Languages

Students may complete the world languages requirement using one of the following three options. One year of high school language study is generally equivalent to one semester of college language study.

Option One

Attain fourth-level proficiency in a single world language, usually by completing four years of that language in high school or four semesters in college or an equivalent combination of high school and college coursework; or pass an achievement test or evaluation at fourth-level proficiency.

Option Two

Attain second-level proficiency in each of two world languages, usually by completing two years of each language in high school or two semesters of each language in college or an equivalent combination of high school and college coursework; or pass achievement tests and/or evaluations at second-level proficiency in each language. Option two does not qualify students to earn credit under the Furthering Language Incentive Program (FLIP).

Option Three

Attain second-level proficiency in a single world language, usually by completing two years of that language in high school or two semesters of that language in college plus one additional 3 s.h. course from the GE CLAS Core in International and Global Issues, Values and Society, Understanding Cultural Perspectives, or World Language and Cultural Exploration. Option three does not fulfill the World Languages requirement for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences or qualify students to earn credit under the Furthering Language Incentive Program (FLIP).

Students may count courses taken to fulfill general education requirements toward other requirements for the BA degree.

Public Health Core Courses

Students must complete the following (29 s.h. for standard or transfer admission students, 30 s.h. for direct admission students). Only direct admission students complete CPH:1050 whereas standard admission students do not.

Course #	Title	Hours
CPH:1050	College of Public Health Direct Admit Seminar (only direct admission students complete this course)	1
CPH:1400	Fundamentals of Public Health	3
CPH:1600	Public Health Science: Inquiry and Investigation in Public Health	3
CPH:1800	Social and Psychological Determinants of Health: Changing Behavior, Improving Health	3
CPH:2050	Career Planning: Exploring Careers in Public Health	1
CPH:2400	The U.S. Health System in a Global Context	3
CPH:2600	Introduction to Public Health Methods	3
CPH:3050	Career Planning: Preparing Post-Graduation Plans	1
CPH:3400	Health, Work, and the Environment	3
CPH:3600	Applied Public Health Methods	3

CPH:3700	Methods for Program Implementation and Evaluation	3
CPH:4999	Public Health Capstone: Practice of Evidence-Based Public Health	3

Required Biology Course

Students complete 4 s.h. as indicated from the following.

Course #	Title	Hours
One of these:		
BIOL:1140	Human Biology: Nonmajors	4
BIOL:1141	Human Biology: Health Professions	4
BIOL:1411	Foundations of Biology	4

Public Health Electives

Students complete a minimum of 12 s.h. of College of Public Health courses from the following.

Course #	Title	Hours
CPH:2200	Climageddon: Understanding Climate Change and Associated Impacts on Health	3
CPH:2220	Building a Healthier Tomorrow: Public Health Methods to Minimize Disease and Pollutant Exposures	3
CPH:2230	Finding Patient Zero: The Exploration of Infectious Disease Transmission and Pandemic Threats	3
CPH:3100	Health Economics	3
CPH:3200	Death at Work: Case Studies of Workplace Safety and Health	3
CPH:3210	Nutrition in Public Health	3
CPH:3220	Public Health as a Public Good: Economics and Decision Making in Public Health Systems	3
CPH:3500	Global Public Health	3
CPH:3800	Why We Eat What We Eat: Public Health Theories and Society	3
CPH:3900	Fundamentals in Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response	3
CPH:4200	Agriculture, Food Systems, and Sustainability	3
CPH:4210	Making a Difference: Public Health Policy and Advocacy	3
CPH:4220	Global Road Safety	3
CPH:4230	Injury and Violence Prevention	3
CPH:4250	Field Experiences in Public Health	1

Experiential Learning Requirement

Students must successfully complete at least one of these experiences from the following. Career Planning: Exploring Careers in Public Health (CPH:2050) is strongly recommended prior to enrollment in any of these courses. Contact the undergraduate program office for specific details.

Course #	Title	Hours
Research		
CPH:3999	Undergraduate Research Experience in Public Health	0-3
CPH:4990	Mentored Independent Undergraduate Research in Public Health	3
Internship		
CPH:4850	Undergraduate Public Health Internship	0-3
Global Learning		
CPH:4750	Undergraduate Global Learning in Public Health	0-3
Service Learning		
CPH:3750	Undergraduate Service Learning in Public Health	0

BA/CLAS Undergraduate Degree

Students admitted to or enrolled in the BA in public health program may pursue an additional degree in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS). Students pursuing an additional degree outside the College of Public Health are:

- expected to meet all degree requirements, general education requirements, and GE CLAS Core requirements for both degree programs;
- required to satisfy the collegiate residence requirements of both colleges;
- assigned two advisors, one in each college; and
- assessed tuition for the primary program of study in accordance with the rules of the Office of the Registrar.

Additional Considerations

Students may be awarded degrees in the two colleges simultaneously or separately without requiring additional coursework beyond the degree requirements. Current students enrolled in the College of Public Health who want to add a CLAS major should use the Change of College Application found in MyUI. Students who wish to discontinue the additional degree program will need to file a Discontinuation of Combined Degree Program form in the collegiate office of the program of study they are dropping.

Students may change majors with either college in the college academic programs office and still remain in the additional degree program.